GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:597
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2009
TSUNAMI AND EARTHQUAKE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any achievement in the field of Tsunami and Earthquake Early Warning Systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds allocated/spent on the research during each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether any other system exists in the global market;

(e) if so, whether any global tender has been floated for acquiring such systems;and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes Sir. The Government has established a state of the art Tsunami Warning System.

(b) The Indian Tsunami Warning System comprises various real time monitoring networks, seismic monitoring network; bottom pressure recorders;tide gauges etc.,to monitor tsunami waves.These real time observing networks are backed up by a hierarchical database of pre-run tsunami travel time and inundation scenarios; robust standard operational procedures (SOPs) and communication facilities for generation and dissemination of different categories of warnings. The three critical steps involved in generation of tsunami warnings include (i) detection and estimation of earthquake parameters; (ii) estimation of travel time and run-up height of tsunami; (iii) confirmation of tsunami by monitoring sea level.

(c) Details of grants allocated are

(i) 2005-06 Rs. 20.00crores

(ii) 2006-07 Rs. 55.52crores

(iii) 2007-08 Rs. 29.66crores

(iv) 2008-09 Rs. 10.00crores

(d) No Sir. Such systems are not readily available in global market.However,Pacific Tsunami Warning System, Hawaii and Japan Meteorological Agency provide warnings for Pacific Ocean. Indonesia also has established its tsunami warning system.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.